
ANNIVERSARY PROGRAM

1849
5609

1999
5759



April 30, 1999
May 1, 1999

Dedication

This program is dedicated to the Jewish people of Terre Haute, Indiana,
Past, Present and Future,
who have made and will continue to make such a significant positive impact
on the lives of all citizens of the community

וְאַהֲבַתְּ אֶת ה' אֱלֹהֶיךָ בְּכָל-לִבְּךָ וּבְכָל-נַפְשְׁךָ וּבְכָל-מְאֹדְךָ:
הָיוּ תְּדַבְּרִים הָאֵלֶּה אֲשֶׁר אֲנִי מְצַוְךָ הַיּוֹם עַל-לִבְּךָ:
וּשְׁנַנְתָּם לְבְנֶיךָ

YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR MIND,
WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH, WITH ALL YOUR BEING.
SET THESE WORDS,
WHICH I COMMAND YOU THIS DAY,
UPON YOUR HEART.
TEACH THEM FAITHFULLY TO YOUR CHILDREN...

In celebration of the 150th anniversary there is an exhibit of Jewish artifacts at the public library
at 7th and Poplar Streets. Please visit this beautiful and meaningful display of our past.

We thank
ROGERS JEWELERS, BENTON AND SUZANNE STEIN
and
JEBBS INC., JERRY AND JO EINSTANDIG
for their generosity in sponsoring this program booklet

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**150th Anniversary of the Jewish Community
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Officers

Andrew Farber, M.D.	President
Irving Haber, D.O.	President Elect
Jo Einsteadig	Vice-President
Edward Wormser	Secretary
Herschel Chait, Ph.D.	Treasurer
Karl Zucker, Ph.D.	Past President

Board of Trustees

Bruce Black, Ph.D.	John Pliskin
Betsy Frank, Ph.D.	Gloria Sher
John Kite, J.D.	Saul Stevens
Morris Landsbaum, HLD	

Patty Lewis	President of Sisterhood
Paul Tuchman	Rabbi

150th Anniversary Celebration Steering Committee

Chairperson and Historian
Herman Koren, HSD

Jo Einsteadig	Lana Haber
Max Einsteadig	Morris Landsbaum
Andrew Farber	Gloria Sher
Jeannie Farber	Ed Wormser
Rabbi Paul Tuchman	Treasurer Karl Zucker

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SERVICES-SANCTUARY

United Hebrew Congregation

Erev Shabbat Service

Friday evening, April 30, 1999/Iyar 15, 5759-8:00 p.m.

Gates of Prayer

Service #1

Candle Blessing: Patty Lewis

(Worship service transliterations begin on page 766)

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Special Recognition in Memorium-David Levin

Rededication of stained glass windows from B'nai Abraham-Rabbi Miles

Speaker: Rabbi Eric H. Yoffie, *Past, Present and Future of Judaism*

Kiddush

719/777

Aleynu

615

Yahrzeitn: May 1-7, Iyar 15-21

Kaddish #1

622

Concluding Song: *Ein Keiloheinu* (transliteration)

730

Rabbi Paul Tuchman and Rabbi Stanley R. Miles

Soloist: Laurel Fischbaum Organist: Rosemary Shavloske

Oneg Shabbat-Vestry Room-Sponsored by Sisterhood

Shabbat Service

Saturday morning, May 1, 1999/Iyar 15, 5759-10:00 a.m.

Gates of Prayer

Service #1

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(Worship service transliterations begin on page 766)

Torah Service

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Torah Portion: Emor

Leviticus 23:1-8

Torah page 224

Sermon-Rabbi Stanley Miles

Haftarah: Psalm 118:19-29

Kiddush

719/777

Aleynu

615

Yahrzeitn: May 1-7, Iyar 15-21

Kaddish #7

625

Concluding Song: *Oseh Shalom*

629

Kiddush Luncheon-Vestry Room-Sponsored by Sisterhood

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PROGRAM-TERRE HAUTE COUNTRY CLUB

Saturday, May 1, 1999, 6:30 p.m.

Cash Bar-6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Music by John Spicknall

"God Bless America"	Laurel Fischbaum
Blessing	Rabbi Paul Tuchman
Dinner	
Introductory Remarks	Herman Koren
Welcome	President Andrew Farber
Proclamation	Mayor Jim Jenkins
Acceptance of Proclamation	President Elect Irving Haber

A Presentation of Terre Haute Jewish Leadership

Arts	Alane Meis
Business	Beatzy Becker
Community Service	Ed Wormser
Education	Karl Zucker
Medicine	Irving Haber
Philanthropy	Jerry Einsteadig

Honor Recipients for Lifelong Service

Nelson Cohen
Max Einsteadig
Carolyn Gurman

Concluding Remarks	President Andrew Farber
Benediction	Rabbi Paul Tuchman

Lafayette Klezmorim Band with Becky Kaplan, soloist

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150th Anniversary Celebration Committees

Commemorative Book

Lana Haber, Chairperson
Betsy Frank, Gloria Sher,
Ed Wormser, Saul Stevens

Communications

Allane Zucker, Chairperson
Sunny Cohen, Laurel Fischbaum,
Vera Fortner, Anne Gurman,
Maureen Krause, Patty Lewis

Dinner Dance

Jeannie Farber, Chairperson

Historical Research

Max Einsteadig, Chairperson
Beatzy Becker, Herman Koren

Library Display

Max Einsteadig, Chairperson
Beatzy Becker, Ben Benjaminov
Bess Einsteadig, Edna Ruth Gilmore
Louise & Walter Sommers

Publications & Advertisement

Ed Wormser, Chairperson
Herman Koren

Oneg Shabbat and Kiddush

Patty Lewis, Chairperson
Renee Benjaminov
Sunny Cohen, Laurel Fischbaum,
Anne Gurman, Allane Zucker

Community Ticket Sales

Saul Stevens, Chairperson
Irving Haber,
John Pliskin

Video

provided by Jeannie Farber

Welcoming Committee

Ed Wormser, Chairperson
Betsy Frank

Logo Design

Professor Alma Mary Anderson, CSC
Art Department
Indiana State University

Special Thanks

Prof. Anderson for designing and assembling the Commemorative Book
Norma Collins, Temple Secretary
Vigo County Historical Society
Vigo County Library

A BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE HISTORY OF THE JEWISH COMMUNITY OF TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

The Terre Haute Jewish Community has been a major influence for good locally, regionally, and nationally. Our people have had a substantial impact on the health, education, culture and economy of West Central Indiana. A Jewish person is part of a 4000 year old tradition and a member of an extended family of Jewish people who believe in one living God, and who through communal practices and rituals work together for the betterment of the entire Jewish community, and the outer community. This is accomplished through prayer, the study of Torah, and charity.

The first written record of a Jewish presence in Terre Haute dates from 1827 with the purchase of land by the attorney Samuel Judah of Vincennes. Mr. Judah later became an Indiana legislator, representing the local district and rising to become Speaker of the 25th General Assembly of the State of Indiana.

In 1845 David H. Arnold and others purchased a piece of land at First Street and Eighth Avenue for a burial ground. In 1849 they formed the Terre Haute Israelite Burial Society a verein, which is a Jewish mutual benefit society. This was the beginning of communal and religious Jewish life in Terre Haute. David H. Arnold became the president of the organization, and for the next nine years he led the Jewish community. He also led the community in the early 1860's.

Rabbi Isaac Mayer Wise, founder of the American Reform Jewish movement, first came to Terre Haute July 10, 1856. He found about 20 Jewish families in town. At that time Rabbi Wise described Terre Haute Jews as sober, industrious, intelligent people respected by their neighbors. He said, "Judaism is forgotten nowhere...it demonstrates its vitality and unabated energy. The Jew remains attached to his faith in the western worlds..."

In 1858 the burial society formally organized as the Jewish Congregation and Burial Society, called the Zions Gemeinde. Charles Alshuler, one of the original founders of the burial society, became the president. The first synagogue, which later became the Reform Temple Israel, was located in Carr's Hall, on the 2nd floor of the Trotsky Building, which was at the southwest corner of 4th and Walnut Streets.

June 8, 1868, the Gan Eden Lodge #110 of the independent order of B'nai B'rith was founded. In 1872, the Hebrew Ladies Benevolent Aid Society was founded, as well as the Jewish Aid Society. They took over the charitable work performed by Jewish people for all members of the Terre Haute community. This was done long before there was organized charity. In 1886, fifteen men formed the first Orthodox Synagogue B'nai Abraham. It was located in a rental hall at 11th and Wabash. H. G. Goldberg was the first president. In 1886, the Phoenix Club was formed.

Jewish people opened stores, became professionals, founded numerous Jewish organizations, participated actively in Terre Haute life and became known for their work ethic and philanthropy. Their contributions far exceeded their numbers.

In 1891 Rabbi Wise returned to Terre Haute to install Rabbi Alexander Lyons as the first full time Rabbi of the Reform congregation. His presentation discussed the "Past, Present and Future" of Jewish life. The first permanent building was at 420 South 4th Street. Rabbi Lyons became known in Terre Haute and the surrounding territory as a notable person and a speaker of great eloquence and power. In 1911 the Reform congregation built its current synagogue at 540 South Sixth Street.

In 1925 the Orthodox congregants decided to build a new synagogue because of their substantial numbers. They dedicated the synagogue in 1926. Their Rabbi was Ralph Hershorn. The congregation then hired both a rabbi, Harry Miller, and a cantor, Eli Katz.

In 1935 the two Terre Haute congregations merged administratively, creating the United Hebrew Congregation*. This was the first time, to our knowledge, that Reform and Orthodox people worshipped together in the United States. Religious School and Hebrew School were provided using both buildings. They had a Jewish Boy Scout Troop, Agricultural Womens Group, Council of Jewish Juniors, the Temple Ladies Auxiliary, Council of Jewish Women, Temple Sisterhood, B'nai B'rith, a Zionist organization, the Phoenix Country Club, the Jewish Welfare Fund, and a Jewish War Veterans organization (including 90 members). There were 239 member families in 1936.

The Jews of Terre Haute were involved in the life of the general community in music, drama, other arts, law, politics, medicine, education and business. This involvement continues today. Mayor Jim Jenkins has issued a proclamation honoring the Jewish people for these contributions and for their leadership in the philanthropic and charitable organizations of our community. Although the number of families has grown and then decreased over the 150 years, there remains a strong Jewish presence in Terre Haute.

On April 30 and May 1, 1999, we celebrate the 150th Anniversary of Terre Haute Jewish life. The president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, Rabbi Eric Yoffie, will set forth our challenge for the future when he takes Rabbi Isaac Mayer Wise's title, the "Past, Present and Future" of Jewish life. Rabbi Yoffie's visit and address is confirmation of the contributions to community, state and nation, and is an example of what small city Jewish people have accomplished throughout the country and anticipation of what they will accomplish in the new century.

March 1999

* The president of the merged congregation was Ben Blumberg and the rabbi was Joseph Marshall Taxay.

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